

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-03

INFO OCT-01 OFA-01 L-01 OES-02 SS-14 EA-06 IO-03 SP-02

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DRAFTED BY D/LOS:OESKIN:MZ

APPROVED BY D/LOS - OTHO E. ESKIN

L/OES - MR. LEITZELL

T - MR. CRAFT

EA - MR. EDMOND

OES/OFA - CDR. BUSBY

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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R 102015Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162415

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PLOS, RP

SUBJECT:LOS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MANILA 9316

1. THE U.S. CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE BEST SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF OCEAN USES IS THROUGH A BROADLY ACCEPTED, MULTILATERAL AND COMPREHENSIVE LOS TREATY. DESPITE THE FACT THAT THERE ARE CLEARLY MANY DIFFICULT ISSUES WHICH REMAIN TO BE NEGOTIATED IN LOS CONFERENCE AND DESPITE SLOW PROGRESS OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS, USG IS COMMITTED TO SEEKING SOLUTION TO OCEANS ISSUES THROUGH LOS CONFERENCE. USG IS NOT RPT NOT CONSIDERING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES AS ALTERNATIVE TO MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS THROUGH LOS CONFERENCE. WE
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CONSIDER THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WOULD NOT BE SATISFACTORY

AND IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE ARE SEEKING A MULTILATERAL SOLUTION.

2. FYI WE BELIEVE IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT IDEA NOT BECOME CURRENT THAT U.S. WOULD BE WILLING TO AGREE TO SERIES OF BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS TO SOLVE SPECIAL PROBLEMS. THIS IDEA COULD SERIOUSLY UNDERCUT LOS NEGOTIATIONS BY REMOVING INCENTIVE FOR SOME COUNTRIES TO REACH COMPROMISE. END FYI.

3. EMB SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO SOLICITOR GENERAL AND OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE THAT U.S. IS NOT CONSIDERING BILATERAL AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER ACTIONS IN EVENT LOS CONFERENCE FAILS. YOU SHOULD STATE THAT U.S. REMAINS FULLY COMMITTED TO SEEKING MULTILATERAL SOLUTION WHICH WE BELIEVE IN LONG RUN IS IN BEST INTEREST OF ALL COUNTRIES.

4. FYI DEPT OFFICIALS DID NOT INDICATE AT ANY TIME TO MENDOZA THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS COULD BE AN ALTERNATIVE. WE REGRET MENDOZA RECEIVED THIS IMPRESSION AND ARE PUZZLED OVER ITS SOURCE. END FYI.

INGERSOLL

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